

SCRIPTURES FOR THE BLIND

BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

JANUARY 1938



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Pacific School of
Religion
Berkeley, Calif.



Y. 83
1938

„SMUCH"—Matthew 25:40

TRANSLATION

The Advisory Council—1937

IT was a notable gathering of Christian leaders that convened at the Bible House on December first, on the occasion of the nineteenth annual meeting of the Advisory Council. Among them were presidents and moderators of conventions and assemblies, bishops, seminary presidents and deans, stated clerks, editors, laymen, and pastors. Thirty-three denominations were represented, and last-minute regrets were received from nine who had been expected representing as many additional church bodies. It was the largest Advisory Council meeting save one in the history of these gatherings, and brought together men and women from fifteen states and the District of Columbia. For sixteen of those present it was their first visit to the new Bible House. One of these new friends wrote on his return home: "A thousand thanks for all that yesterday meant to me. I gained a new vision, and I want it to keep on growing—the vision of a transfigured world through the reading and teaching and preaching of the Word."

The Reverend P. O. Bersell, president of the Evangelical Lutheran Augustana Synod of North America, was chosen chairman for the day. The opening devotional address was given by Dr. L. J. Shafer, secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in America. He spoke with deep feeling, as one who had served many years in Japan, of the need in the Far East for a knowledge of God's Word.

The morning session was given to statements by the Secretaries concerning the Society's work. Dr. North spoke on the purpose and processes of the Society. Dr. Brown gave lantern-slide snapshots of the work in its various phases. Dr. Stifler spoke of the six elements in the present life of the Society by which it is seeking to adjust itself to the changing conditions in the world. They were the President of the Society, Mr. John T. Manson, who constantly urges the Secretaries to pioneer in new methods consistent with the times; the new

(Turn to page eight.)



MEMBERS OF ADVISORY COUNCIL, AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY, 1937

Left to Right—Upper Row: Rev. F. R. Eddy, Rev. E. B. Burgess, Rev. Martin Anderson, Bishop Monroe H. Davis, Rev. E. S. Williams, Rev. Herbert C. Van Horn, Rev. John A. Ingham, Rev. Homer Tomlinson, Rev. L. K. Williams, Rev. J. A. Kempf.

Middle Row: Rev. John Beebe, Rev. J. E. Skillington, Rev. H. B. Trimble, Mr. Arthur Y. Meeker, Rev. M. Joseph Twomey, Rev. L. S. Tracy, Rev. John R. Sampey, Rev. Wesley Boyd, Rev. H. C. Garber, Rev. C. Adam Kress.

First Row: Rev. W. E. Turner, Mr. Arlando Marine, Rev. P. O. Bersell, Rev. Graham Frank, Mrs. Burdette G. Lewis, Mr. John T. Manson, Rev. W. E. Schuette, Rev. M. C. Swigart, Rev. George W. Richards, Rev. S. C. Enck, Rev. Roby F. Day.

BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

A Journal Dedicated to the Wider Distribution
of the Holy Scriptures

VOLUME 83

JANUARY 1938

NUMBER 1

BALANCING



THE BIBLE SOCIETY BUDGET

AFTER all, there is but one way to balance any budget: to have on one side worthy wares to offer; and on the other, interested people. Soapmakers, artists, steel mills, department stores, Bible Societies,—they all depend upon these two factors for balancing their budgets. We usually think of budgets in figures. Figures are but symbols, and often confusing symbols, of the living facts of any budget. Worthy wares! No one who reads these words will question the worth of the Word of God. For almost a century and a quarter the American Bible Society has been seeking to perfect its skill in the production and the distribution of the Scriptures at the lowest possible price consistent with honorable manufacture. Even in this country where costs are high, the Society makes a Bible available for thirty cents, a Testament for a nickel, and a Gospel for a penny. In foreign lands where the gospel of Christ is relatively new, and other religions and cultures dominate, the Bible Society distributes many, many volumes below cost. Both at home and abroad thousands of copies of the Word are donated where there is no ability to pay. Hundreds upon hundreds of volumes for the blind are distributed at a small fraction of their cost. The Bible Society has ever in mind the person who, except for its own interest in him, might never have a

Bible. From the date of its organization the Society has acted under the conviction that here is a book which the last man on earth needs, and that no man on earth should use as a channel of profit for himself in distributing to others. Here are the wares—and here is the spirit behind their offering. This is one side of the budget.

To balance all of this, there must be on the other side thousands and thousands of devoted people who know the Bible and love it, and who are aware of the fact that there are many groups of people in the world who do not have the Bible; people who realize that it is because of ignorance of the Bible that the world suffers as it does under false philosophies of life; people who are convinced that, if the Bible could be put into the hands of every man of every race and tongue, there would be less greed and strife and war; people who realize that this colossal task of translating the Scriptures, publishing them at a minimum of cost, and distributing them to the ends of the earth, is one of those tasks that can only be done collectively; people who know that their own denominational missions do not provide this type of world service; people who realize that, if American Christians are going to get the Bible to the last man, it will have to be done through the American Bible Society.

God's Messengers

This is the second of two articles by the devoted Secretary of the Japan Agency. It throbs with the spirit of the true evangelist

BY THE REVEREND KARL E. AURELL



COLPORTEUR ORIKASA AND HIS SEVEN DEVOTED CONVERTS

BIBLE Society colporteurs in Japan are on the go all the time, because the objective of the Society is to push the Scriptures into every home of their respective territories as speedily as it possibly can be done. Therefore, colporteurs have no time for lengthy conversations at the homes. But, as I have gone through villages day after day meeting various kinds of people, it has never been possible to canvass as many houses as planned for the day. It is true the younger generation can read; but, there are the sick, the blind, and the aged who need shepherding. Unless the younger generation has been touched by the saving grace and love of Jesus Christ, it does not take the trouble to read these books to the unfortunate in their homes. Therefore, colporteurs who are full of the grace and love of God, burning with zeal for the salvation of souls, feel compelled to give considerable time to some of the homes they visit. A colporteur burdened for souls forgets himself. He forgets time. His watch is sel-

dom consulted. He forgets meals in taking advantage of his opportunities with needy people. I have often found myself five, six or more miles away from the lodging place after the sun has set, and the darkness of night fast overtaking me as I trudged back. After ten or twelve hours of arduous labor in the villages, I reach the inn at eight o'clock or later, so tired that I can hardly remove my shoes. With real difficulty I ascend the steep, rickety stairs to my room and drop almost like a shot man on the matted floor, to relax fifteen or twenty minutes before taking food. I am too tired to eat. No laboring man works harder than a fully devoted, consecrated Bible colporteur! And he is not working to make a living and support a family. That is incidental. He is not working for the Bible Society. He is working for God. He wears himself out, and burns up with zeal in the effort to get people in touch with the living Redeemer Jesus Christ. He knows he can never meet those folks a second time, as he is

ever pushing on to countless uncanvassed homes; and he must do his best to give them even a little glimpse of the Lord Jesus. It is a tremendous work, but at the same time a glorious task! He is happy in it, as he has the assurance that it is well pleasing to God.

Now, the reader may want to ask: "How about the immediate fruitage of such earnest work?—are not some souls won to Christ during the first contact?" Yes, thank God. The following incidents, while adding color to what I have pictured above, will bring joy to the heart of every lover of the Bible and the souls of men.

One of our older colporteurs found an elderly woman at a certain house hard and intractable. Starting to leave, he discovered a very pale face looking out between the "shoji"—sliding paper windows—of a small house a few yards away. "What is the matter with that man?" he asked. "He is incurably sick,—a hopeless case," she exclaimed. "Is that so? How sad! I must have a talk with him." She protested, claiming it was absolutely useless. "Don't you do it; it is dangerous," she added. But God's witness rushed over to the poor man, and, learning he had tuberculosis, spoke kindly to him. "Have you found salvation?" "No," was the answer. Then without hesitation, the colporteur removed his shoes, and pushing the sliding paper door back, his eyes fell on the words on the opposite wall: "No admittance." The warning was disregarded, and our worker plunged into an intimate conversation with the old man. The story is too long to give in detail. Suffice it to say, God's messenger, with deep earnestness and tenderness of heart, dealt with the perishing man. It was found that in earlier days he had heard the Christian message, and was therefore able to accept the truths and promises of God which were read from the New Testament. Then both bowed and wept, and poured out their hearts in gratitude to Jesus. The greatest of miracles—a man born again—was performed. The relationship which began between these two men possibly can be imagined, but cannot be explained. Physically, they had to separate; but spiritually, they are united in the Lord Jesus forever. The hard old woman, watching our worker's actions and noting his zeal, first thought he was insane; but, upon seeing what happened, her cold heart melted. Expressions of gratitude came over her lips for what our colporteur had done for

the sick man. Later, a letter indicated that the old man was in vital touch with the Lord Jesus, and our follow-up worker through correspondence has had the great pleasure of leading him on in the nurture of the Lord.

In a report from one colporteur we have the following: "The other day, about three o'clock in the afternoon, the man of the house I was canvassing said: 'We are Buddhists, and have no use for Christian books.' To this remark I simply quoted the words of Matthew 11:28, and added, 'These books announce the way of salvation, and that makes them of all books most important and precious.' Suddenly, the man's attitude changed. He drew near and requested that I repeat the passage I had read. I was more than glad to do so, adding more explanation. 'All right,' he replied, 'I will buy



COLPORTEUR ORIKASA PLEADS WITH A FARMER

the five booklets,—and please make what you said more clear to us. I want my wife and daughter also to know all about it,—please come in and sit before the fireplace.' I did so, and for at least thirty minutes I spoke right out from my heart to the family, of the marvelous mercy of Jesus Christ. Their hearts opened wide for the gospel story, and they begged me to stop with them at least two nights, in order that they might get the fullest understanding possible of Jesus and his promises.

"As a matter of fact," the man said, 'I have been an earnest Buddhist believer for a long time. I've read all the Buddhist literature available; but the more I read of that teach-

ing, the darker life becomes. Now, as you probably have observed, the street running by our place is the road by which all the funerals of this city pass. Every day we remark among ourselves: Yesterday, how many funerals were there? How many were there today? And the question has arisen, What becomes of man when he dies? In Buddhism there are innumerable commandments to observe, and, if a person breaks one of them, he cannot be saved. According to its teaching, one must be born over and over again. It is a hopeless outlook. I've reached desperation, and others have. Now, from what we learn from you, if we believe in Jesus Christ, we can be saved immediately. Is it possible? It is too good to be true! What a wonderful religion!"

Later on, this awakened soul told our worker of an intimate friend across the street who was in the same condition; and again he pleaded that the colporteur should tarry with them until this friend also might know the salvation through Christ. There is a great deal more of interest to this incident, but space and time are limited. Our worker promised to come and spend Sunday with them. When Sunday came, he took another colporteur with him, and together they were able to give these two fami-

lies what they longed for. They accepted Jesus' way of salvation by simple faith, and were committed to the care of an earnest Christian in the community for further nurture.

In one prefecture a whole village and its surrounding communities are marveling at what happened to seven men in their midst whom a colporteur had dealt with. In putting the Gospels in their homes, he answered their questions by taking them to the plain Word of God. The result was that they fell in love with the Scriptures. They believe them,—feast on them,—live by them,—talk about them, and the change that has come over them is to their neighbors miraculous. Since they were baptized, their constant witnessing of what the Lord had done for them has drawn many others into their happy fellowship. This work of God was brought about because a Bible colporteur took the Scriptures to their homes, and supported his exposition of them with testimony of what the Lord had done for him.

(These seven men and their leader are pictured at the head of this article.)

Like good fishermen these Japanese colporteurs have gone. All day and every day they are heeding their Master's command—God's Messengers!

Teaching As He Goes

THE man in the center of the accompanying picture is serving a needy section of Georgia in a most thorough and commendable way. He is the Reverend Harry Meek, an active Baptist pastor, and is here shown with the Reverend Louis Parker at the right, and the Reverend Rader Watkins. These men now serve as pastor and assistant pastor, respectively, of the Poplar Springs Baptist Church, Georgia, where Mr. Meek began his ministry thirty-three years ago. Mr. Meek now gives part of his time as pastor of a small church near Atlanta, and part to a rather extensive program of Scripture distribution in nearby counties. His plan is

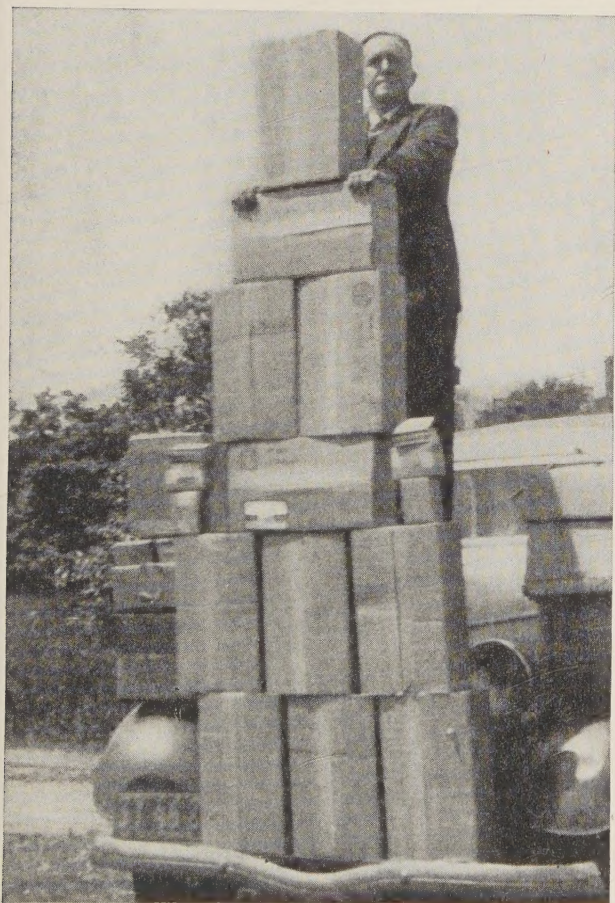
unique, in that he holds Bible-training schools in every community he visits. He takes such themes as "The Great Characters of the Bible," and attracts the whole community to his classes. He is thus able to discover the people who are too poor to buy the Scriptures, and sets about to provide them. In his own community he conducts a regular school in his home, and has attracted wide attention as a leader in this community project. The American Bible Society would be happy to have a thousand friends like the Reverend Harry Meek! For there are yet many times that number of communities in our land where the light has never broken.



A Five-cent Testament and a Diamond Ring

BY FRANCIS C. STIFLER

WHEN Secretary Brown returned to the Bible House recently from a visit to the Atlanta Depository, he handed the writer a wedding ring studded with small diamonds, and the original of the accompanying picture. Then he sat down and related the following chain of incidents that reveal what rich investments lie hidden in the Word of God.



TESTAMENTS FOR NEGLECTED PEOPLE

The story begins with a school teacher in Alabama, who secures New Testaments from the Atlanta Depository of the Bible Society, and places them in homes where there are no Bibles or gives them to individuals who express a desire to read the Scriptures. Almost a year ago, she presented one of these five-cent Testaments to a boy in her own school, who seemed in earnest to know about his Saviour. The lad

took the Testament home, only to find that his father objected to its being read around the fireside.

The boy slept with his younger brother in a loft above the father's room. When the father retired later that evening, he heard the boys above him. For a long time the older boy read from the Testament, and then began to offer prayer. He thanked God for his precious book and implored the Heavenly Father to touch the heart of his earthly father, that he might grow to love the truths proclaimed in the great Book. The prayer ended; the father called the boys to come down and read their Bible to him.

The father, who told the story to the teacher, said that his nine children, his wife, and himself had all found the Lord and were members of the church.

And now comes the story of the diamond ring. The Reverend M. M. Bussey is a man who is always remembering forgotten communities. He recently distributed over 5,000 Testaments in ten weeks throughout eight Southern states. He is shown in the picture with a consignment of these Testaments piled on the bumper of his Ford car. One day Mr. Bussey was conducting a revival meeting. He told the story of the five-cent Testament given the schoolboy, and how that boy's earnestness and prayers had led a whole family to Christ. There was a stirring in the seats. Into the aisle came a pastor and his wife. They stood before the speaker. The woman spoke. She told of how she wanted to have a part in Scripture distribution and had suggested to her husband that they give their wedding ring to be sold, so that Bibles might be given to the poor. He agreed, and they offered the ring to Mr. Bussey. After appraisal by a jeweler, the ring was brought to the Atlanta office of the Society, and Scriptures to the value assigned were delivered to Mr. Bussey. The ring was then brought to the Bible House, to be converted by the Treasurer into cash to reimburse the Atlanta Depository. And thus did God's Word run further on its course.

Memorial Memberships

As a tribute to a beloved neighbor, a group of friends made the late Senator Joseph T. Robinson a Memorial Member of the Society on October 30, 1937.

Four other such memberships were created since the last report in the July RECORD as follows:

Miss May N. Shafer, by her sister, Miss Blanche M. Shafer.

Rev. Charles Gallimore, by his sister, Miss Anna Gallimore.

Miss Cora Frances Hooston, by her mother, Mrs. William Hooston.

S. Frederick Johnson, by his wife, Mrs. Martha S. Johnson.

Memorial Memberships may be made either by an individual or a group in memory of a relative or friend. How much more fitting than the traditional practice of erecting costly stone monuments. By such membership there is assured a continuance of a loved one's serv-



ice in a world of need. A Memorial Membership is created by the gift of \$100. This amount of money will render any one of the following priceless services to a world in need of God's Word. It will—

1. Enable a missionary colporteur to travel for three weeks in the mountains of western China, where as yet the hostilities have not penetrated and where visits may be made to village after village in which the gospel has never been presented or read before.
2. Pay the salary for four months of a colporteur working in Argentina, Paraguay or Uruguay.

For further details about Memorial Memberships, write to the Treasurer, Bible House, New York.

The Advisory Council—1937

(Continued from page two.)

Bible House; changes in the home-office personnel; the new alignment of duties among the officers; the new series of English Scriptures, and the new cooperative arrangements with other Bible Societies on foreign fields. Dr. Brown closed the morning session with a comprehensive statement of the cooperative program with the church bodies of America.

President John T. Manson brought cordial greetings to the Council members, and joined them for luncheon and the afternoon program.

The closing session was held jointly with the Budget Committee of the Board of Managers, reviewing the proposed budget for 1938, presented briefly on another page of this issue of the RECORD, and adopted December second by the Board of Managers.

A findings committee appointed in the morning brought to the meeting in its closing moments the following resolutions:

1. In view of world-wide economic and social tendencies which are essentially opposed not only to Christianity, but to every form of religion, we are convinced that never in its history was the work of the American Bible Society among the tribes and nations of the earth more necessary than it is at the present time.

2. Ministers and members of the churches should be brought to realize that the American Bible Society is an efficient aid and faithful servant of all boards of national and international missions,

(Continued on next page)



AT THE ADVISORY COUNCIL—DR. SAMPEY, DR. L. K. WILLIAMS, AND DR. TWOMEY
They represent 9,600,000 church members

- which are organized to fulfil the last mandate of the risen Christ: "Make disciples of all nations."
3. The work of the Society should be brought more and more to the attention of men and women in the churches by presenting the cause before students of theological seminaries; before the regular assemblies and synods of the churches; as far as possible in the church papers; also by ministers in their sermons and addresses as occasion arises, as well as in direct statements of the actual results accomplished by the Agencies of the Society throughout the world.
4. Churches should be urged to observe Universal Bible Sunday with special reference to the work of the American Bible Society; appropriate literature, as in the past so in the coming years,

- should be circulated by the officers of the Society in preparation for the observance of the day; and men and women and children in the churches and schools should be given an opportunity to contribute to the support of the work.
5. The Advisory Council heard with pleasure that the apparent difficulty in some sections of the country between the Society and the publication boards is in process of amicable settlement.
6. The Advisory Council was impressed by the encouraging address of Dr. Shafer, and was thoroughly satisfied with the reports of the Secretaries on the work of the year 1937 and with the splendid leadership of President Manson.

The denominations represented and their delegates were:

Denomination	Representative
Seventh-day Adventist	Rev. I. H. Evans
Assemblies of God	Rev. E. S. Williams
National Baptist Convention, U.S.A.	Rev. L. K. Williams
Northern Baptist	Rev. M. Joseph Twomey
Seventh-day Baptist	Rev. Herbert C. Van Horn
Southern Baptist	Rev. John R. Sampey
Church of the Brethren	Rev. M. C. Swigart
Church of God	Rev. Homer Tomlinson
Churches of God in North America	Rev. W. E. Turner
Congregational and Christian	Mr. Arthur Y. Meeker
Disciples of Christ	Rev. Graham Frank
Evangelical and Reformed	Rev. George W. Richards
Friends	Mr. Arlando Marine
American Lutheran	Rev. W. E. Schuette
Augustana Lutheran	Rev. P. O. Bersell
Lutheran, Missouri Synod (invited guest)	Rev. Adolph F. Meyer
Norwegian Lutheran	Rev. Martin Anderson
United Lutheran	Rev. E. B. Burgess
Mennonite	Rev. H. C. Garber
Methodist Episcopal	Rev. J. E. Skillington
Methodist Episcopal, South	Rev. H. B. Trimble
African Methodist Episcopal	Bishop Monroe H. Davis
Free Methodist	Rev. C. Adam Kress
Primitive Methodist	Rev. Wesley Boyd
Methodist Protestant	Rev. Roby F. Day
Wesleyan Methodist	Rev. F. R. Eddy
Church of the Nazarene	Rev. L. S. Tracy
Presbyterian, U.S.A.	Mrs. Burdette G. Lewis
Reformed Presbyterian	Rev. J. A. Kempf
Protestant Episcopal	Rev. Henry Darlington
Christian Reformed	Rev. John Beebe
Reformed in America	Rev. John A. Ingham
United Brethren	Rev. S. C. Enck

Representatives of nine denominations were prevented from attending:

Evangelical	Bishop John S. Stamm
Evangelical Congregational	Rev. C. H. Mengel
African Methodist Episcopal, Zion	Bishop L. W. Kyles
Colored Methodist Episcopal	Bishop C. H. Phillips
Moravian Church in America (Northern Province)	Rev. S. H. Gapp
Presbyterian, U. S.	Rev. John A. MacLean, Jr.
Associate Reformed Presbyterian	Rev. R. L. Robinson
Cumberland Presbyterian	Rev. D. W. Fooks
United Presbyterian	Rev. A. J. Randles

Radio Address of the Honorable

*Delivered on Universal Bible
Studios of the Columbia B*

I AM happy to accept the invitation of the American Bible Society to say a few words on this occasion of Universal Bible Sunday. There can be no more timely and appropriate observance. Seldom in the history of mankind has there been more need than today for the precepts contained in the greatest of books.

We are living at a time when the minds and hearts of men are baffled and confused. Ours is an age of unparalleled paradoxes.

Human ingenuity and inventive genius have expanded enormously mankind's capacity to satisfy the material and cultural wants of man. Yet, in the midst of this potential abundance, poverty is still rampant, and suffering and misery are still widespread. Yet, the fruits of cultural advancement are still far from being universally accessible.

The evolution of political thought has created forms of democracy and representative government under which human liberty can flourish to enoble and fructify the lives of individuals. Yet, in many parts of the world there is a drift toward a reversion to a system of tyranny of man over man; toward an abridgement or destruction of human liberty; toward a shackling of speech and action and even of individual thought and conscience.

Technical and economic developments have brought the world together into an interdependent whole. International peace has assumed the aspect of practical, immediate, and urgent concern to all nations and to all individuals within nations. The repercussions of war, wherever it may occur, are swiftly and devastatingly transmitted

to the farthest corners of the earth, and inevitably affect the lives of nations and of individuals.

Yet, the attainment of durable peace is still a matter of desire and hope rather than a reality. Having created incredibly efficient means of destroying life and property in military action, humanity is still far from success in its frantic search for means of abolishing the scourge of war.

These are some of the problems which weigh upon us today. How shall we seek their solution? Where shall we look for the answer?

One thing is clear. Our problems and our difficulties, our sense of bafflement and confusion, do not spring from any material causes, nor from an inability to visualize our potentialities and our possibilities. The roots of our tragic shortcomings lie in the realm of the spirit.

Time and again we find ourselves defeated in efforts to improve conditions within and among nations solely because of the spirit which animates human relationships. Our most earnest endeavors often flounder and founder because we fail to find reliable guideposts in the basic sphere of relations of man to man.

Yet, such guideposts exist—plainly to be seen by those who wish to see them, easy to follow by those who realize their surpassing worth. They are embodied in a book—the Book of the Ages, the Holy Bible.

That book is indeed, as Lincoln once said, "the best gift which God has ever given to man."

It is the revelation of God's will as to the relationship of man to God.

ordell Hull, Secretary of State

December 12, 1937, from the
System, Washington, D.C.

It is the most complete and satisfying compendium of moral and ethical principles. Its precepts have withstood attack and criticism, derision and doubt. They have emerged triumphant from the test of centuries as the most constructive basis of human relationships.

It is the high-water mark of literature. The sublime beauty of thought, feeling, and expression enshrined in its simple but sonorous phrases has shone undimmed through the centuries.

It is more widely loved and revered and read than any other book. Even so, our tragedy is that the Bible is not read enough, pondered enough, followed enough.

What we need today, above everything else, is a universal and firm conviction that only if the thought and action of every one of us are guided by the spirit of the Bible, can humanity win through to our ardently desired goal of happy and contented life for all; that, if that spirit is cast aside or warped, disaster alone is in store for us. There should be engraved in the mind of each of us the words of the parable with which the Master concluded the Sermon on the Mount:

"Every one therefore that heareth these words of mine, and doeth them, shall be likened unto a wise man, who built his house upon the rock: and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon the rock. And every one that heareth

these words of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, who built his house upon the sand; and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and smote upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall thereof."—*Matthew 7: 24-27.*

Today, too many human relationships, within and among nations, rest upon the shifting sands of selfish search for immediate advantage; of mistrust and enmity; of refusal to respect those rights of others, or to fulfill those obligations toward others, without which barbarism rather than civilized existence becomes the scheme of life. Inevitably, all of us, the victors as well as the victims in this continuous and blind struggle, must become engulfed in the ruin of that social structure which we call civilization. History records too many instances of the downfall of civilizations consequent upon moral and spiritual decadence.

That is the fate which inexorably awaits us, unless we resolutely build our social structure upon the rock of mutual confidence and friendliness; of clear-sighted differentiation between ephemeral and lasting attainments; of sincere and scrupulous respect for the rights of others and whole-hearted fulfillment of obligations toward others; of understanding and cooperative effort between individuals and nations.

Humanity desperately needs today a moral and spiritual rebirth—a revitalization of religion. There is no sure way to this supreme goal save through adherence to the teaching of the Bible.

Making Himself Useful to His Master

BY THE REVEREND J. J. MORGAN, Secretary, Southwestern District

SOME time ago, the Southwestern District received an order from the Reverend R. N. Allen, Sr., D.D., of John Brown University, Siloam Springs, Arkansas, for a Bible in the Pangasinan language. The request for this language, used only in the Philippines, was so unusual in the Southwest, that no Bible in it was in stock, and the Secretary referred the order to headquarters. The Bible was sent from there to Dr. Allen, who, in reply, revealed the fact that it was for a young Filipino student in the university. He wrote:

"The Bible in the Pangasinan language has been received, and the Filipino boy is delighted with it. However, the price is rather a burden on him. This boy went to the Hawaiian Islands to learn English. There he came in contact with a missionary, the Reverend William Waterhouse, who is a friend of our schools. He professed Christianity; the missionary became interested in him and arranged for his education with us. But, the missionary is working on faith, and he is short on finances. He wrote a letter to the Filipino, saying that he had better drop out of school at the end of this term. The student just lacked one year of getting his degree; so I wrote the missionary, and he has arranged to have the boy remain until he gets his degree. The Filipino student has a very limited amount with which to meet his personal expenses. He had managed to save up the seventy-five cents which he sent you, and which he thought would pay for the Bible; and, while he is willing, if it is necessary, to pay the additional amount of \$1.02, it will take him some time to save up that amount."

Of course, the Secretary replied that the Bible Society would be more than glad to donate the rest of the cost of the Bible, and he asked, too, that the boy send to the Dallas office a picture of himself, with his Bible, and an account of how he happened to be in Arkansas, so far from home. In response, the grateful student wrote to the headquarters office in New York in part as follows:

"First of all, I want to thank you sincerely for the Filipino Bible of which a part of the cost was given to me as your help.

"My deepest thanks and appreciation is due to Rev. R. N. Allen, Sr., D.D., for the great interest he is taking in behalf of me, and for his correspondence with you concerning me.



MR. SIAPNO AND HIS PANGASINAN BIBLE

"Here is a brief account of myself. I was born in Mapandan, Pangasinan, Philippine Islands. When I was about fifteen years old, I was baptized by an American missionary without the notice of my parents. When they discovered that I had become what people in my town called "Protestante," my parents scolded me. My parents wanted me not to change our faith, but I had opposed them. I had seen the many great sins practiced by the priests and their followers that lost my respect and confidence.

"I did not have a full conception of how to live the Christian life. I did not know much God, Jesus Christ, his life and his work; however, I have believed that there is God, and that is Jesus Christ.

"I left the Philippines a few years ago for abroad in search of higher education. I had planned to study journalism and political science, with the thought that I would prepare myself to be a writer, and to enter in our politics in the Philippines.

"It was in the Hawaiian Islands where I landed and worked. A few years after working under the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association, I came here in America last year in March to study. I finally decided to study the

Bible, as I am summoned into God's service.

"It has been a great blessing to me in a school like the John Brown University, which believes in the training of the head, heart, and hand.

"I expect to graduate next year in September. After my graduation, I intend to return to Hawaii to do Christian work among the several thousands of Filipinos and other nationalities. I have seen many people in Hawaii who are without God, without Jesus Christ. I hope I can help to give them spiritual and moral education.

"I love the Lord Jesus Christ, and I hope he will use me.

"Sincerely in his service,

"LEONCIO B. SIAPNO."

• • •

Translation Notes

THE work of translation and revision of the Scriptures is constantly going on in the homeland and on the foreign fields. The American Bible Society plays an important part in this phase of missionary work. Among recent new volumes to appear is a revision of the Gospel of St. John for the Chippewa Indians. Just a little more than a century ago the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions published the Gospel of St. Luke for the Ojibwa or Chippewa Indians of the Great Lakes region. In 1844 the American Bible Society published the entire New Testament. There are still about 30,000 of these Indians living in Minnesota, Michigan, North Dakota, and adjacent parts of Canada, many of whom make little use of English. The Society's translations made so many years ago represented the language according to French orthography, which makes many of the words appallingly long. Mr. James P. Welliver, of the Northern Gospel Mission, had been for sometime urging the Society to issue a new edition of the Gospel of St. John with the words divided into syllables and with the orthography adapted to English usage; but it was difficult to find out just what demand there would be for such a book. At last, with the aid of an intelligent Chippewa preacher of the Mission Covenant Church, Mr. Welliver prepared an edition of St. John, which he had printed locally, the Society giving some financial aid, after being convinced that the work had been

done faithfully and without alteration of the text. Copies are now available for distribution among the Indians by several missions working among them.

* * *

In far-off Africa appeared last year the first portion of Scripture to be translated into the Songo language spoken by about 20,000 people living in Portuguese West Africa. It is the Gospel of St. Mark. The translation has been made by Mr. T. Ernest Wilson. A young printer in Grand Rapids, Michigan, who hopes eventually to go to Africa as a missionary, printed it himself in his spare time. Examination of the text at the Bible House indicated that the translation was faithfully and carefully made, so that permission to use the Society's imprint was given and the services of the Society's proofreader were offered, and accepted, and the book published this spring in Portuguese and Songo. The Songo people are fishermen who live along several rivers, and until mission work was started among them about ten years ago were quite uncivilized. There are now about one hundred professed Christians. Mr. Wilson has been testing and revising his translation for about five years. And thus the light is breaking in another corner of the dark continent.

* * *

The Society is just now engaged in printing 3,000 Miskito New Testaments for the Moravian Mission in Nicaragua, of which a portion

will be shipped during the next few weeks.

This is a corrected edition, and its appearance offers the opportunity to remind Bible lovers of the encouraging story of how the Scriptures expand in quantity and quality as the Christian constituency among missionary peoples grows. The demand for Miskito Scriptures has increased with the increase of adult

literacy. The language is spoken by almost 25,000 people of Nicaragua and Honduras along the east coast and for about 250 miles up the Coco River. The language was reduced to writing by missionaries over ninety years ago, and the whole New Testament has been available since 1905. It was revised and published by the American Bible Society in 1926.

. . .

It Happens Everywhere

MR. HARRY E. STEFFEY is the consecrated superintendent of the Maryland Tract Society. As he goes about the city of Baltimore, he finds many opportunities to slip a Scripture portion into receptive hands groping for assistance. These hands are by no means always those of the poor and disinherited. Witness the following, which is an excerpt from one of Mr. Steffey's recent reports to his society:

"Your superintendent visited a business man in the center of the city and left a penny Gospel for him to read. When the man returned to his office, his attention was called to the little Gospel that had been placed on his desk. Another business man in an adjoining office saw the Gospel and read some portions of it. Turning to his friend, he asked to borrow the little book. Observing his interest, the business man showed him the complete set of New Testament books in small form, which he at once secured for a young Catholic friend, and another set also for a person with whom he had been dealing personally. All this was the result of a Gospel left on the desk of a busy man, who nevertheless had time to share its riches with those in need of them."

The Salvation Army corps of Maryland, under the efficient leadership of Major George Marshall, is proving a center of power and blessing in Scripture distribution.

Two impressive stories have recently come to the Bible House from this fertile field.

The Whipp family consists of father and mother, two daughters, and two sons. They represent the underprivileged group, and, like many whose lives lack the ordinary comforts of life and normal inspirational contacts furnished by school and church, had suffered serious moral lapses.

The father found his way into a Salvation

Army hall, was brought under conviction of sin, and with his wife knelt at the altar. Both professed conversion, and started to climb back toward the better way.

James, the youngest child, began to take an interest in the meetings. Because of what he had seen in the home, and the new and better way of living which his parents had adopted, James thought his way through to a definite resolve. He said, "I don't want to have to go to the reform school like my brother." His life proves the sincerity of this decision. He goes daily to the Army building and asks for little jobs, and does them faithfully. This he says, is to keep him "out of mischief." The Army worker attributes this chain of events to the gift of an American Bible Society thirty-cent Bible to James, several weeks before the appearance of his parents at the Salvation Army hall.

Another case of the Word not returning void is that of Mrs. B—, another Baltimorean. Mrs. B— owned a Bible when a young girl. At that time she attended church and professed to be a Christian. Then came marriage, the birth of a baby boy, and subsequent neglect of all religious duties. One evening, at the invitation of a friend, she attended services in the Salvation Army hall at 1601 W. Baltimore Street. She came again, and again, until her growing interest in spiritual things led to a request for the dedication of her little boy. When the workers talked with her about things spiritual, they learned that she had no Bible and greatly desired one. Accordingly, an American Bible Society Bible was given her, and she has voluntarily pledged to read it daily. Since the Bible has been in her home, her husband has become interested in reading it, and has also begun to attend the services of the Salvation Army. Surely, these sowers have scattered the good seed on good ground.

Echoes from Secretary Hull's Broadcast

UNIVERSAL Bible Sunday, December 12 last, was memorable for the midday broadcast across the land, and by short-wave hookup to foreign countries, by Secretary of State Cordell Hull, speaking from Washington over the Columbia System. The complete statement made by Mr. Hull is found on pages ten and eleven of this issue. Copies in leaflet form may be had by writing to the Bible House, New York. We wish to share with our readers some of the more intimate accompaniments of this significant event.

Secretary Powers, of the National Capital District office, was asked to represent the Society at the local station in Washington, while President Manson and the choir of Grace Church participated in the New York studios of the Columbia System. Dr. Powers wrote Secretary Stifler of his experience in these words:

"In compliance with my promise, I was on hand to receive the Secretary of State upon his appearance at the Earle Building, Washington, D. C., for the national American Bible Society broadcast.

"While everything about the occasion breathed an atmosphere of perfect simplicity, the twenty minutes spent in the studio was about as thrilling a thing as I have ever experienced! . . .

"Mr. Hull brought with him his secretary, Mr. McBride. I greeted them in the reception room, expressing the appreciation of the Society for the Secretary's willingness to take time out of his very crowded life to do this beautiful thing for the Bible cause. With characteristic frankness, the Secretary stated that he was quite as much interested in the Bible cause as I was or could possibly be; that to get the American people to read the Bible and live by its precepts was our common job; and that, unless we all feel our responsibility and assume it in these confused days, there was no way out, as he saw it, for America or the world. He expressed his conviction that the great need in America was for a united front against everything that tends to destroy the morale of the people and the preservation



Secretary Hull

of America as a Christian nation.

"When the broadcast was over, I thanked him again for his splendid message and took occasion to say that, while he had received many honors, I felt that on this occasion he had qualified for the degree of doctor of divinity. He smiled, in his gentle way, and replied, that he had only expressed the convictions of his heart and had tried to say some of the things that he steadfastly believed, and that he did believe the Bible to be the rock upon which America has stood and upon which she must build for the future."

* * *

From practically every state in the Union and from Canada have come letters requesting copies of the broadcast, and of cheer that the Bible has been commended in high places. Mrs. Roy Hull, of Armathwaite, Tennessee, the birthplace of Secretary Hull's father, writes: "Please send me two copies of the address made by the Honorable Cordell Hull on Sunday, December 12. One of these copies I want for J. R. Hull, who is an own uncle of the Secretary of State and is my father-in-law."

A friend in New York City writes:

"I seldom listen to addresses on the radio, but I rarely fail to give ear to *one* man—our Secretary of State, Hon. Cordell Hull. I took special pains to hear him today, and I got exactly what I was sure that I should get—*great words from a great man!*

"I am an optimist. I feel certain that the world *is* getting on. But, the way is a toilsome one,—and a slow one. Still, the tiny steps of painful human progress *are* being taken. Thank God for that!

"Spiritual regeneration is the world's only hope, truly. But in spite of everything, I feel sure it *is* gradually—very gradually—arriving. Speed the day for absolute achievement!"

* * *

The famous news commentator, H. V. Kaltenborn, whose talks are broadcast to many foreign countries, at the close of the day on which Mr. Hull spoke, alluded to the address, quoting that part which included the Scripture quotation, and laid stress on the necessity of reading the Bible in the solution of world affairs.

A Look at 1938

ANOTHER year is before us as we think of the world and its need of the Word of God. The American Bible Society has, through its various committees and its Board of Managers, put many hours in study as to how best to meet that need. A glance at the accompanying budget figures reveals that the estimated available funds are the same as last year. The new figures are arrived at on the basis of the gifts of this past year. As we go to press, the year 1937 has not completely run its course. As yet, we do not know what the gifts from the churches, interested friends, and Auxiliary Bible Societies will total. Unlike a year ago, we are a bit fearful that uncertain business conditions prevailing in the nation may result in our not realizing our full estimates. We have, however, expressed our faith in the Bible-loving people of America in setting the figures for next year at the level no lower than that of 1937. The business prospects may not be so good; but the realization of the desperate need of the world for that which only the Word of God can supply is surely much greater.

There is many a heartache hidden behind the figures given here: District Secretaries in the homeland and Agency Secretaries abroad sharpening their pencils to find ways of making their inadequate stocks of books stretch over the vast areas of darkness and need which they are called to serve; colporteurs who could load their saddlebags or their oxcarts, their canoes or automobiles with twice the supply of Scriptures they do, if the Agency were able to supply them; uncounted people in various lands who have heard of the gospel from neighbors and are waiting for the day when the colporteur will return; tribes who have sat at the feet of missionaries and have learned that some day, when the funds permit, they may have a copy of the Gospel as their very own. On the next page we bring a single item close to the reader's eye. It is an Agency work appropriation of \$11,500. Please read it through carefully, that you may share the heartache that is there. Many of these heartaches might be removed if the first three figures below could be generously increased. Let every reader resolve that 1938 shall be the long-looked-for year when budget estimates are wrong in the *right* way.

Budget Estimates of Income, 1937 and 1938

	Receipts 1936	Budget 1937	Budget 1938
From General Sources			
Gifts by Churches	\$103,137	\$115,000	\$115,000
Gifts by Individuals	105,734	112,500	112,500
Gifts of Auxilliary Bible Societies	12,180	13,000	13,000
Income of Trust Funds and other Funds	124,943	120,000	125,000
Legacies applied to Budget	120,000	130,000	130,000
Proceeds of Annuities applied to Budget	70,000	70,000	70,000
Income from Miscellaneous Sources	2,533	2,000	2,000
Total Current Income	\$538,527	\$562,500	\$567,500
From Special Sources			
Applied from Budget Stabilization Fund	\$13,785	\$8,520
Gifts for the Blind	4,205	7,500	5,000
Income of Funds for the Blind	1,806	2,500	2,000
Applied from Reserve for Blind	2,842	3,000
Huston Fund for Plates	8,271	20,255	32,110
Total: Not including sales ..	\$569,436	\$601,275	\$609,610
Income from Sales (U.S.)	239,117	260,000	260,554
Total Budgeted Income	\$808,553	\$861,275	\$870,164

Budget Estimate of Expenditures—1938

For translation and revision of Scriptures and the plates of new versions	\$45,860
For the distribution of the Scriptures in the United States of America, including ten Districts, four Divisions, and six Depositories, covering expenses of colportage, grants, promotion of distribution, offices, and supervision; work for the blind, grants to Army and Navy, prices below cost	165,234
For the twelve Foreign Agencies serving thirty countries, covering colportage, expenses of other forms of distribution, grants of Scriptures, loss on Scriptures priced below cost to be within purchasing power of the people, printing and purchase of Scriptures, shipping costs, rent and office expenses; for grants in Africa, Europe, and Micronesia, and the indirect expense of other foreign work	239,478
For general administration, including secretarial and treasury staff, publication of the RECORD and Annual Report, safeguarding of securities, pension allowances	98,638
For cultivation of donors, advertising, publicity, promotion of Universal Bible Sunday, proportionate share of expense of certain denominational benevolence promotion, and other items related to promotion and cultivation	60,400
	\$609,610
For printing and publication in the United States of America (kept in balance with sales)	260,554
	\$870,164

A Close-up of a Single Budget Item

What a Foreign Secretary Does with His Appropriation

AT the Bible House in Cristobal, C. Z., is Secretary Gregory, who works in ten countries—and ten currencies. On learning that his appropriation is \$11,500

He will (1) order at cost from New York and London Scriptures costing	\$6,500
(2) pay sea freight and insurance amounting to	425
(3) pay customs duties and transportation in ten countries	1,175
(4) The Scriptures thus cost him altogether	\$8,100
(5) He estimates the prices which people can pay at	7,250
(6) and charges off as a loss the difference of	\$850
(7) He will donate without charge, to needy individuals and institutions, Scriptures priced at	150
(8) leaving for sale Scriptures priced at	7,100

He will then (9) provide \$1,090 for the office secretary's salary, \$700 for the Bible House janitor and packer, \$200 for the upkeep of the Bible House, \$170 for light and water, \$106 for insurance, \$1 for land rent, \$220 for postage, telephone and telegraph, \$55 for office supplies and printing, \$60 for rent and \$30 for sundry supplies at Caracas, Venezuela, \$120 and \$10 for like items at Barranquilla, Colombia, and \$100 for sundries; also \$500 for his own travel by steamer, rail, airplane, or muleback, and \$90 for contingencies—a total expense of	\$3,437
(10) employ as colporteurs to sell Scriptures in Colombia: Veteran José Siciliani at \$1,310 wages and expenses; newly employed José Rivas at \$925; a helper for Siciliani, \$475; Venezuela: Antonio Ramos at \$860; Eligio Assuage at \$810, and for half time, Eulogio Perez at \$330; Salvador: Experienced José Escamilla at \$660; Nicaragua: Antonio Blanco at \$615;—a total of	5,985
(11) arrange with from three to six missionaries, mission bookstores, etc., in nine countries, to sell books, as opportunity offers, for a small commission at a cost of ..	895
(12) make special arrangements with one or two missionaries in each of eight countries for special campaigns in special areas, supervising other workers, directing student part-time workers, or making long tours in undeveloped regions, at a cost of ..	1,250
(13) expend for sending out Bible Sunday literature, some of it translated and reprinted ..	25
(14) pay transportation on individual orders mailed from the Bible House	100
(15) pay miscellaneous expenses of	25
(16) a total of	\$11,717

These colporteurs, missionaries, bookstore agents, pastors, student workers, and others representing Friends, Presbyterians, Baptists, Seventh-day Adventists, Moravians, Central American Mission, Scandinavian Mission, and other missions will sell during the year some 7,900 Bibles, 9,000 Testaments, and 60,000 Gospels and other Portions in sixteen languages, for, at the reduced prices, \$7,965
of which \$865 worth will be drawn from stock left from the previous year.

Drawing his appropriation of	11,500
he will have total receipts of	\$19,465

Against this Secretary Gregory will have paid out:

For Scriptures (item 4)	\$8,100
For general expense and field work (item 16)	11,717

A total expenditure of	\$19,817
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He balances his account, finds his local bank balance reduced at the year's end by \$352, and wonders *when* the depression in America will be over and \$600 more be provided for intensive colportage in the interior towns of Panama. and \$1,000 for supplying the new Mam and Miskito Testaments!

EDITORIAL COMMENT

BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

*A Journal Dedicated to the Wider
Distribution of the Holy
Scriptures*

Editors: THE SECRETARIES

Address correspondence to Francis
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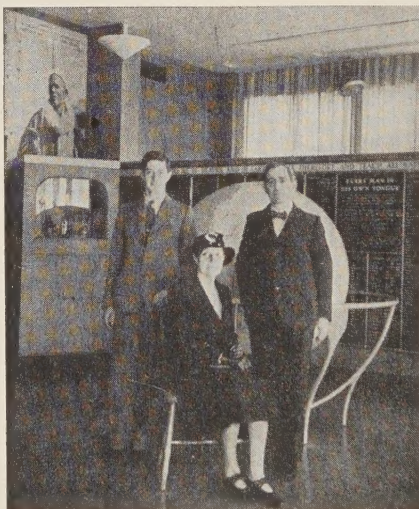
VOL. 83 JANUARY 1938 No. 1

MR. DANA M. ALBAUGH, associate secretary of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society, is making a tour of Northern Baptist Missions. On October 12 last he writes Secretary Stifler:

I have had it on my list to write you, and I think that now is the appropriate time; for Mrs. Albaugh and I are quite indebted to your representatives at the Bible House in Manila. We have just spent a very pleasant few days with Mr. and Mrs. Fonger in their home. It seems that, since the Baptists have no headquarters in Manila, it is customary for the Secretary of the Bible Society to serve as a representative, and meet people of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society when they are coming and going. We arrived in Manila last Friday on the *Empress of Asia*, and, after seeing the crowded condition of Hongkong, we were wondering what we would do if we found Manila in the same condition; for we knew that we would have to stay there for a few days before going on to Iloilo. Mrs. Fonger had a letter waiting for us at the boat, in which she reported that all the hotels were filled, except the most expensive in Manila. She also said that they had a place for us. We enjoyed their fellowship very much, and I was glad to have an opportunity to see

in actual operation the work of one of your Agencies. * * * I spent quite a while in conference with Mr. Fonger, and he told me in some detail about the work. When we were in Japan, we visited the new Bible House there and met some of the folks in the office.

SECRETARY RITCHIE, of the Upper Andes Agency, with his wife and son visited the Bible House last October on their way from Scotland, where William had just graduated at the University of Edinburgh, to Lima, Peru, where the Agency is located. The accompanying picture was taken at the Bible House the day they sailed.



MR. AND MRS. RITCHIE AND SON

IN his opening address at the New York Book Fair, speaking under the auspices of the *New York Times*, Secretary of Agriculture H. A. Wallace took as his subject "Books of Power." He began by saying the most obvious thing that any intelligent man could say; namely, that the Bible was the most powerful book of all the ages, more potent by far than any decisive battle or army or em-

pire. We suggest that our readers drop a card to the *New York Times* and ask for a copy of this address.

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December Meeting of the Board

THE eighth stated meeting of the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society in its one hundred and twenty-second year was held at the Bible House, Park Avenue and 57th Street, New York, on Thursday, December 2, 1937, at 3:30 p. m., President John T. Manson in the chair.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Secretary Brown.

The minutes of the seventh stated meeting of the year were approved.

Minutes of the standing committees were presented and approved, and their recommendations adopted.

The resignation of Mr. Clarence L. Sager, because of inability to attend meetings of committees and of the Board, was accepted with regret.

The budget for 1938 as recommended by the Budget Committee was presented. Appropriations for the year 1938 were adopted, totaling \$870,164, not including monies received in foreign fields and there spent.

Report was made of the nineteenth annual meeting of the Advisory Council held on December 1.

Translational helps for use in the Otetela and also for use in the Gospels of St. Luke and St. John in Ibanag were approved.

The translation of the Gospel of St. John in Cuyo was approved for publication subject to examination.

Mr. Walter W. Grosser, of Chicago, was elected a Vice President.

The Treasurer reported consignments of 3,275 volumes to Latin America during the month of October.

The issues from the Bible House during the month of October were 334,118 volumes.

The meeting was adjourned.

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Atlanta, Georgia—85 Walton St. No. Carolina, So. Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tenn., Alabama, Mississippi.
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